

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of making a solid immersion lens device having a plurality of solid immersion lenses, comprising the steps of:
 - providing said plurality of solid immersion lenses in a predetermined pattern; and
 - securing said solid immersion lenses in said predetermined pattern so as to cause them to be in a fixed position with respect to each other.

2. A solid immersion lens device comprising:
 - a plurality of solid immersion lenses; and
 - a body portion in which said plurality of solid immersion lenses are integrally secured, said body portion having a top surface designed to engage a sample for viewing of said sample through said plurality of solid immersion lenses.

3. A solid immersion lens device according to claim 2 wherein there is said plurality of solid immersion lenses are provided in a row.

4. A solid immersion lens device according to claim 3 wherein there is provided a plurality of adjacent rows.

5. A solid immersion lens device according to claim 4 wherein said plurality of rows are aligned so as to provide a plurality of rows and columns of solid immersion lenses.

6. A cover slide having a plurality of solid immersion lenses integrally formed therein, said cover slide having a surface designed to engage a sample for viewing of said sample through said plurality of solid immersion lenses.

7. A solid immersion lens device according to claim 6 wherein there is said plurality of solid immersion lenses provided in a row.

8. A cover slide according to claim 7 wherein there is provided a plurality of adjacent rows.

9. A cover slide according to claim 7 wherein said plurality of rows are aligned so as to provide a plurality of rows and columns of solid immersion lenses.

10. A cover slide according to claim 6 wherein said plurality of solid immersion lenses have an index of refraction equal to or greater than 1.49.

11. A cover slide according to claim 6 wherein said plurality of solid immersion lenses have an index of refraction in the range of about 1.49 to about 1.85.

12. A cover slide according to claim 6 wherein said plurality of solid immersion lenses are made of glass.

13. A cover slide having a plurality of solid immersion lenses integrally formed therein, said cover slide having a surface designed to engage a sample for viewing of said sample through said plurality of solid immersion lenses and an open viewing area designed to engage a sample for viewing of said sample using a microscope under normal magnification.